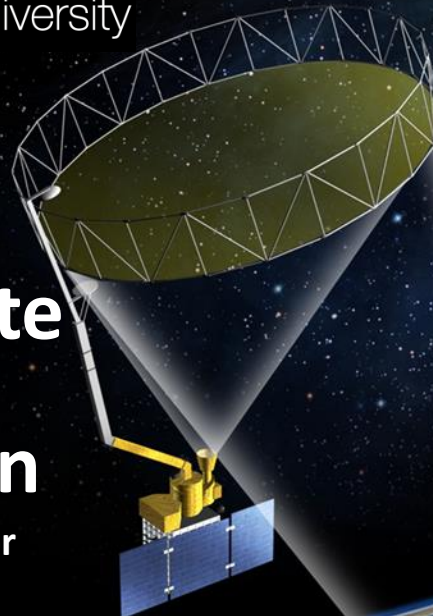


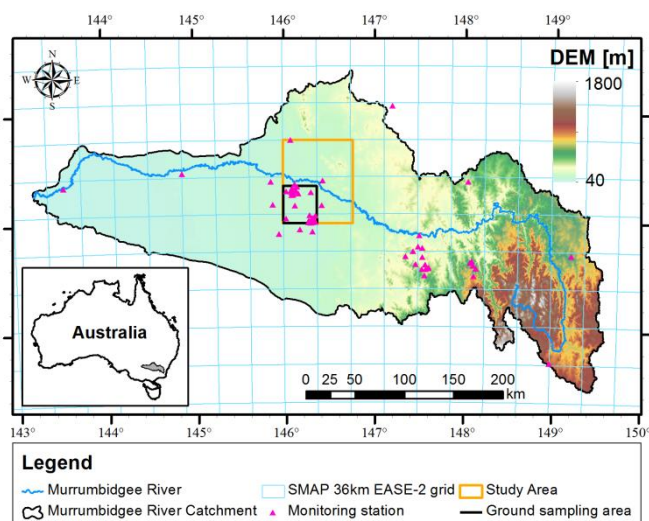


Are YOU interested to participate in Australian field campaigns for validating a new NASA satellite?

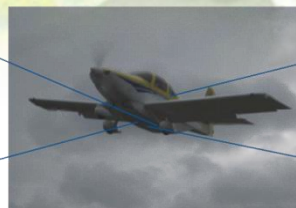
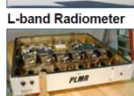


NASA will launch a new satellite dedicated to the monitoring of global soil moisture in Jan. 2015. The **Soil Moisture Active Passive (SMAP)** satellite will carry an innovative L-band (1.41 GHz) radiometer and L-band (1.26 GHz) radar system to measure soil moisture every 3 days at unprecedented resolution and accuracy. The SMAP measurements will be invaluable across many applications, including hydrology, agriculture, climate, carbon cycle, and ecology.

To validate the SMAP microwave observations and soil moisture products, researchers from Monash University in Melbourne Australia, together with its international collaborators, are planning two **3-week** long field experiments over the Murrumbidgee River catchment in south-eastern Australia during **Apr/May and Sep/Oct 2015**.



L-band Radar



L-band Radar



During these campaigns, airborne L-band radiometer and radar observations will be collected over a 71km by 85km study area coincident with SMAP overpasses. Meanwhile *in-situ* soil moisture, vegetation, and surface roughness will be sampled over six 3km by 3km focus farms. The collected data will be used to validate SMAP products.

Together with the experience of meeting like-minded students and research fellows from around the world, and the opportunity to experience field work in scenic Australia, the volunteers helping in these campaigns will have advanced access to all data collected.

For more information on how to get involved please contact:
Prof. Jeff Walker: jeff.walker@monash.edu
Nan Ye: nan.ye@monash.edu.

Fantastic experience

